

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 5, 2002

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2001–02 REGULAR SESSION

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 233**

**Introduced by Assembly Members Bogh and Chavez**

**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Aanestad, Diaz, Dickerson, Harman, Maddox, Negrete McLeod, Rod Pacheco, Strickland, ~~and Zettel~~ Zettel, and Alquist, Aroner, Ashburn, Bates, Calderon, Bill Campbell, John Campbell, Canciamilla, Cardenas, Cardoza, Chan, Chu, Cogdill, Cohn, Corbett, Correa, Cox, Daucher, Dutra, Firebaugh, Florez, Frommer, Goldberg, Havice, Hertzberg, Hollingsworth, Horton, Jackson, Keeley, Kehoe, Kelley, Koretz, La Suer, Leach, Leonard, Leslie, Liu, Longville, Lowenthal, Maldonado, Matthews, Migden, Mountjoy, Nakano, Nation, Oropeza, Robert Pacheco, Papan, Pavley, Pescetti, Reyes, Richman, Runner, Salinas, Shelley, Simitian, Steinberg, Strom-Martin, Thomson, Vargas, Washington, Wayne, Wesson, Wiggins, Wright, Wyland, and Wyman)**

July 15, 2002

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 233—Relative to Medal of Honor recipients of California.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 233, as amended, Bogh. California Medal of Honor recipients.

This measure would recognize and commend the bravery and selflessness of the Medal of Honor recipients of California, and express the Legislature's appreciation for their service and dedication to the citizens of California and the United States.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Our nation’s highest award for bravery is the  
2 Congressional Medal of Honor. This medal is bestowed only for  
3 the most extraordinary acts of heroism or self-sacrifice above and  
4 beyond the call of duty, and it is the most distinguished decoration  
5 for military valor any individual can receive; and

6 WHEREAS, The Medal of Honor is generally presented to its  
7 recipient by the President of the United States of America in the  
8 name of Congress, and it is commonly referred to as the  
9 Congressional Medal of Honor; and

10 WHEREAS, Since the Medal of Honor was established in 1861,  
11 there have been 3,428 total Medals of Honor awarded, with almost  
12 one-half of them awarded posthumously. The first Medal of Honor  
13 was awarded in the Civil War, and the last conflict in which it was  
14 awarded was Somalia. Of the 3,410 recipients, 18 have received  
15 the Medal of Honor twice. To date 2,468 medals have been  
16 awarded to individuals serving in the Army, 649 to individuals  
17 serving in the Navy, 294 to individuals serving in the Marines, 16  
18 to individuals serving in the Air Force, and one to an individual  
19 serving in the Coast Guard; and

20 WHEREAS, Recipients of the Medal of Honor include  
21 individuals of every rank, from private to general, and represent  
22 ethnic, geographical, economic, social, and religious diversity;  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, General George Patton, referring to the Medal of  
25 Honor, once remarked “I’d give my immortal soul for that  
26 decoration,” and President Harry S. Truman once remarked to a  
27 Medal of Honor recipient, “I’d rather have that medal than be  
28 President of the United States”; and

29 WHEREAS, Medal of Honor recipients of California have  
30 fought so unselfishly to secure our freedom, we owe these  
31 decorated heroes a debt of gratitude; and

32 WHEREAS, The names of all recipients of the Medal of Honor  
33 are etched on the granite walls of the Medal of Honor Memorial  
34 located at Riverside, in the great State of California; and

35 WHEREAS, It is important to recognize the significant duties,  
36 responsibilities, and sacrifices of the 16 living Medal of Honor  
37 recipients of California: John Baca, Robert Bush, Jon Cavaiani,  
38 Walt Ehlers, John Finn, Delbert Jennings, John McGinty, Lew

1 Millett, Robert Modrzejewski, Mitch Paige, Richard Pittman,  
2 Alejandro Ruiz, James Stockdale, James Swett, James Taylor, and  
3 Jay Vargas; now, therefore, be it

4 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
5 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature of the State of California  
6 does hereby recognize and commend the bravery and selflessness  
7 of the Medal of Honor recipients of California, and expresses its  
8 appreciation for their service and dedication to the citizens of  
9 California and the United States; and be it further

10 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
11 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

